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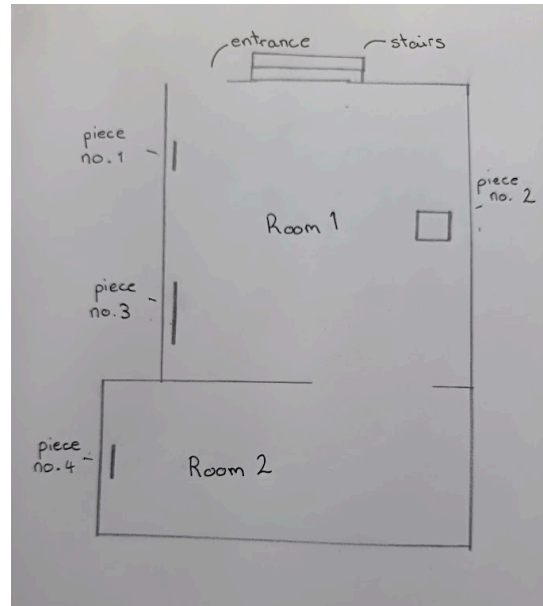
Ways of thinking Lecturer Name : Menna Buss

The concept of my gallery exhibition would be the loss of nature for human development. In my opinion this is a very important topic as nature is being lost every day and it is not a very talked about subject that people think about. Nature is one of the most valuable things on our planet and without it we would not survive. More and more each day animals and plants are going extinct, land and habitats are being destroyed only for human development and greed.

Before the exhibition, I would have to think and act on community engagement. Community engagement is important as it improves decision making about what the exhibition should be about and what should be displayed in it. This would equal a better response and a bigger crowd at the exhibition as it would be about what the community wanted. In order to discuss with the community openly, I would display a comment box outside the gallery to encourage people to anonymously add their feelings about climate change and what can be done to begin changing the environment. I would also hold discussions with the local community on how climate change has affected Swansea and how they feel about it. This would be held in the community center in Swansea.

The display itself would be featuring four different artists and pieces of art varying from sculpture to paintings and photography. To capture the importance of the topic it would be inspired by nature and the effect humans are having on it. There would be plants and vines hanging from the ceiling and walls, while the floor would be a hologram of the sea and forest floor. There would be a speaker hidden among the plants quietly playing bird and forest sounds, while the

art would have spotlights on it to differentiate it from the background. The exhibition would be held in the main and side room of the Glynn Vivian Gallery. When going on the gallery visit, there was the 'Lives in Motion; Stories of Migration' exhibition. The exhibition included paintings, sculptures, photography, print and digital art and it was brilliant to see all these works coming together for one exhibition.





Palirina, ice.M (2021) Melting Ice

The first piece would be “Melting Ice” by Palirina and is an acrylic pour made with black, white and gold to create the effect of looking down at the earth. The colours have been allowed to flow and spread wherever they want which helps to convey the feeling of snow and icebergs melting against the earth. It creates an abstract and unique painting. When looking at satellite images it often shows the contrast of the white and dark colours of the earth that can be seen in this picture.

I would put this 40cm x 40cm work on the wall as you walk into the gallery, therefore it would be the entrance to the exhibition and set the idea of what it's about.



Hogge, Gallery, V (2024) Daphne Vase

The second work of art I would incorporate into my exhibition would be the 3D vase made by Vanessa Hogge named Daphne Vase (see figure. *Hogge, Gallery, V (2024) Daphne Vase.*). This piece incorporates the beauty of the world that is being lost. It sparks thought into the viewer while looking around the gallery to remember that there is still nature left to save. Hogge uses white within her work to demonstrate the purity and innocence of flowers creating each individual flower by hand meaning that no two are identical (*Gallery, V. (2024) Vanessa Hogge - Daphne Vase*). The organic nature of the piece breathes emotion into the unfeeling nature of the clay. Within my exhibition this piece is intended to inspire the viewer into seeing the beauty of nature and its vulnerability. Whilst the flowers appear beautiful they are made from clay which can crack and crumble demonstrating the fragility of the world and the environment

which humans arguably are destroying. She created the vase using porcelain and black clay which when fired turns a shade of ghostly white.

The vase will stand on a podium with a spotlight shining down from the ceiling to show the shadows created by the flowers to help it stand out. By the vase will be a little quote plaque with this quote from Vanessa Hogge. I think the quote shows the importance of what inspires Hogge and what she will carry on making in the future.

Inspired by my passion for all things botanical, and influences as diverse as Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keefe and Marianne North, I breathe life into my clay in the form of dahlias, chrysanthemums, agapanthus, daisies, agaves and roses, and I will happily try my hand at any flower! - Vanessa Hogge



Denes, Denes, A (no date) Wheatfield - A Confrontation

The third work that would be displayed would be Angles Denes "Wheatfield - A Confrontation".

The idea behind the wheatfield was that a 2 acre wheatfield would be planted in lower town Manhattan right outside the city. The wheat would grow and then be harvested to send to countries all across the world. This wheatfield was planted 2 blocks away from Wall Street, the World Trade Centre and facing the Statue of Liberty. The entire field was cleared by hand and two hundred truckloads of dirt were brought in to complete the field.

This concept brings together nature and helps other humans.. The work made people question human values, as it was such a simple idea that cleaned the air around New York, and helped feed and provide money for a lot of families (28 cities around the world) (*Denes, A. (no date) Agnes Denes,*). The work was done for the "The International Art Show for the End of World Hunger".

This work would be displayed in the photograph form shown above, a little way off the wall so it would stand out a lot with a spotlight shining on it. The distance between the wall and the photograph would create a shadow border with the light in the right position to encapsulate the importance of the piece.



Yu, Icebergs Melting (2022) Icebergs Melting

The fourth and last piece I would include in my gallery exhibition would be this painting by Su Yu called Iceberg's Melting, mirroring the first piece. I feel like this painting perfectly encapsulates the theme and intention of the exhibition. This piece is an oil on canvas measuring 275cm (H) x 140cm (W) x 5cm (D). There's so much going on in this one painting, I believe it is the perfect one to finish the show with as it will have the viewer standing by it for a while admiring all the

different aspects. The most obvious thing that your eye immediately goes to is the woman sunbathing on the iceberg, clearly ignoring the problems happening around her. This perfectly represents what has been happening in the world for the last few decades. Then the tiger rug that she's lying on perfectly shows how animals are going extinct for human enjoyment and luxury. Next, to the right of the woman is a polar bear and a penguin that seem to be stuck and suffering on a very small piece of ice as their home is slowly melting away. In the background, then there seems to be penguins jumping off an iceberg, as they regularly do in the wild to find food, but this time it appears the penguins are jumping into a fire, unknowingly. This painting depicts the earth as a nightmare for the animals, and sadly it's not far away from the real world. To add to the exhibition, I would hold public engagement events that would include recycling workshops and art / poetry workshops. The recycling workshops would include going out and picking up litter to get bottles and other recycling to then create models and artworks using these. This would be open to all ages to join. Also, the art / poetry workshops would include people painting their feelings on changing the environment and writing different verses on the subject.

To conclude, I believe that the loss of nature for human development is a very important topic and should be discussed more. This gallery exhibition should allow this to happen and would be good exposure for these artists that believe the same. The art pieces show the loss of nature for human development through outwardly showing it, like in the fourth piece 'Iceberg's Melting' by Su Yu, or by doing something to help the environment like in the third piece 'Wheatfield - A Confrontation' by Angas Denes.

Bibliography and Referencing

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